

I&RS COORDINATORS

Elementary Schools

Tara Donatiello, School Counselor, Gregory School

Delisa Jackson, School Counselor, Hazel School

Lisa Struncis, School Counselor, Mt. Pleasant School

Florence Chirichiello, School Counselor, Kelly School

Rebecca Beutel, School Counselor, Redwood School

Sarah McIntosh, School Counselor, St. Cloud School

Marie DeMaio, Principal, Washington School

Middle Schools

Pamela Halstead-Stewart, School Counselor, Edison MS

Jeffrey Lafoon, School Counselor, Edison MS

Stephanie Nesbitt, School Counselor, Liberty MS

Lauren Volpe, School Counselor, Liberty MS

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Taylor Welch, School Counselor, Roosevelt MS

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Aldo Casale, School Counselor, WOHS

Anna D'Elia, School Counselor, WOHS

Margaret Fahey, School Counselor, WOHS

Madelin Fernandez-Perez, School Counselor, WOHS

Kathryn Furey, School Counselor, WOHS

Mary Kehoe, School Counselor, WOHS

Guerlyne Millington, School Counselor, WOHS

Louis Pallante, School Counselor, WOHS

Rachel Rosen, School Counselor, WOHS

Rossanna Santos, School Counselor, WOHS

Frequently Asked I&RS Questions

What if I receive a letter indicating that the I&RS Team will meet to discuss my child?

Your participation as a parent is important to allow for the most effective and informed process to help your child. You are invited to attend the meeting and ideally should provide feedback in advance.

What if I disagree with the I&RS process?

You may contact the Principal, but the school is permitted to conduct the meeting without parental input. However, if you choose not to participate you will be advised of any plan developed by the team.

What typically happens at an I&RS meeting?

Teams meet with school staff or parents who have made referrals and requested assistance. Action Plans are created for new referrals and are done so by incorporating suggestions from parents, teachers and other staff. Students previously referred are discussed; progress or lack of progress is noted.

What types of issues are typically discussed?

Any issue of that interferes with learning or a student's academic progress is discussed during the meeting. This can include academic, health, behavior, social or emotional issues.



WEST ORANGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

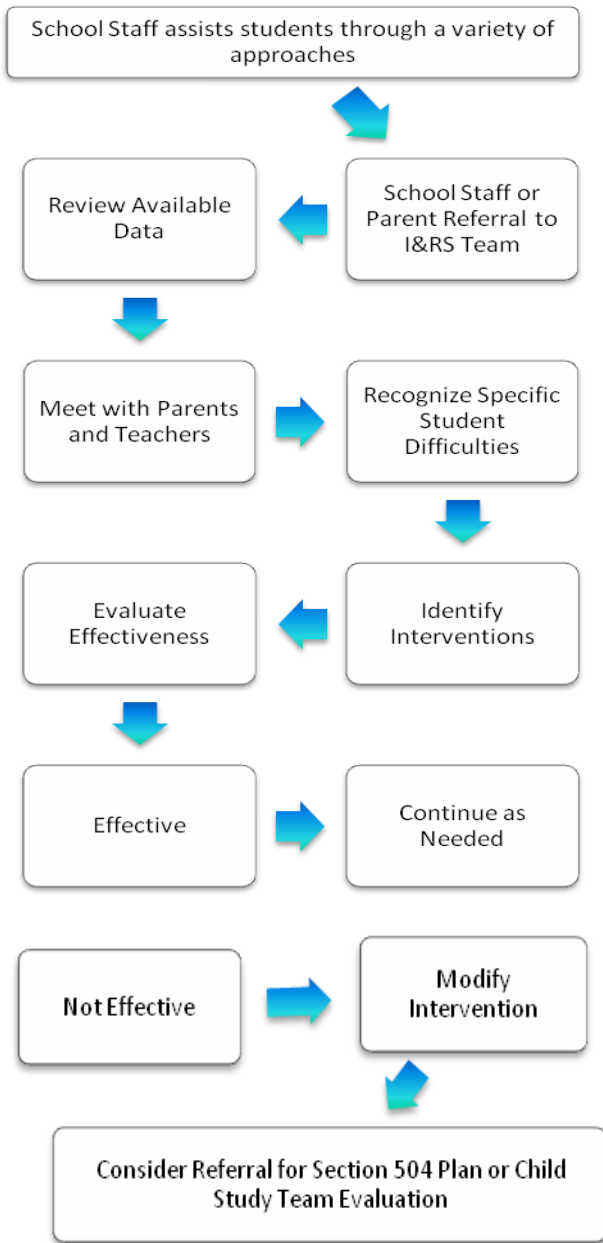


Intervention & Referral Services (I&RS)



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The I&RS Process:



Why Intervention & Referral Services?

I&RS is required by NJ Administrative Code 6A:16-8.1. District boards of education shall establish and implement a coordinated system in each school building for the planning and delivery of intervention and referral services that are designed to assist students who are experiencing learning, behavior or health difficulties and to assist staff who have difficulties in addressing students learning, behavior or health needs. District boards of education shall choose the appropriate multidisciplinary team approach for planning and delivering the services required under this subchapter.

How does I&RS work?

Interventions in the general education setting shall be provided to students exhibiting academic difficulties and shall be utilized, as appropriate, prior to referring a student for an evaluation of eligibility for special education and related services. [N.J.A.C. 6A:14-3.3(b)] The staff of the general education program shall maintain written documentation, including data setting forth the type of interventions utilized, the frequency and duration of each intervention, and the effectiveness of each intervention. [N.J.A.C. 6A:14-3.3(c)]



What does I&RS do?

I&RS teams write Action Plans, based on school staff or parent referrals and specific observable information. These plans may provide alternative strategies, programs and/or assessments. The interventions are designed to support the student in achieving success within the general education setting.

Who sits on the I&RS team?

Team members vary depending on need but typically include a school counselor, teacher, administrator, school nurse and a member of the Special Education Department.

What is a Section 504 Plan?

A Section 504 Plan is a legal document falling under the provisions of the Rehabilitation Act. 504 Plans detail a program of instructional accommodations to assist students with special needs who are in a general education setting. Additional details can be found on the district web site under the "Guidance" page.

Questions?

Please contact the I&RS Coordinator at your child's school listed on the back of this brochure.